



09-09-02

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#12A

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Karapet Ablabutyan  
Serial No.: 09/811,237  
Filed: March 15, 2001  
For: UNITARY LIFTGATE  
Art Unit: 3652  
Examiner: James W. Keenan  
Atty Docket: 23451-037

**CERTIFICATE OF  
MAILING/TRANSMISSION  
(37 C.F.R. §1.8A)**

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*Spencer Blake*

**RESPONSE AND AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§1.111**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

This Response is submitted under 37 C.F.R. §§1.111 in response to the March 6, 2002 Office Action. A Petition For Extension of Time to extend the time for response for three months until September 6, 2002, and fees to cover the Petition and added claims accompany this Response. Please enter the following amendments.

**In the Specification:**

Please replace the paragraph beginning on line 15 of page 5 with the following:

A<sub>1</sub>

Framework 12 preferably comprises a variety of additional features to simplify manufacture and to increase the utility of the liftgate system 10. For example, side plates 14 may comprise formed steps 51, pump bracket 52 for mounting pump 54 to power hydraulic cylinder 38, dock bumpers 56 and vehicle light brackets 58. Generally, these features are integral with the framework 12 but they can also be separate members that are suitably attached to the frame. Also preferably, lift frame tube 22 is configured to function as an underride guard to minimize injury in the event of a rear end collision. Integrating underride protection into the existing liftgate system removes the need for an additional, dedicated horizontal member.

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02 FC:102  
03 FC:103 40539332.1

84.00 OP  
72.00 OP

MB



PTO/SB/21 (08-00)

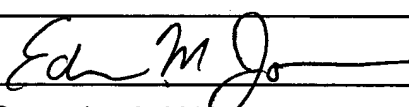
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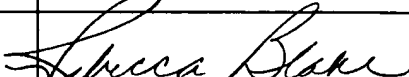
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<b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b> <i>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</i>	<b>Application Number</b>	09/811,237	
	<b>Filing Dat</b>	March 15, 2001	
	<b>First Named Inventor</b>	Karapet Ablabutyan	
	<b>Group Art Unit</b>	3652	
	<b>Examiner Name</b>	James W. Keenan	
<b>Total Number of Pages in This Submission</b>	20	<b>Attorney Docket Number</b>	23451-037

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form (1 page) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached (2 checks) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Reply (10 pages) <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request (1 page) <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application  <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) (7 sheets) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation <input type="checkbox"/> Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CID, Number of CD(s) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): 2 checks 268410/\$156 and 268338/\$920; Return Receipt Postcard
<b>Remarks</b>		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT	
Firm or Individual name	Manatt, Phelps & Phillips, LLP
Signature	 Edward M. Jordan (40,666)
Date	September 6, 2002

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